

## ADRIFT AT SEA ON A CAKE OF ICE

Upon a Frozen Craft Old Angler Takes  
A Sea Trip—Break-Up Carries  
Him Off.

Hancock, Me., Dec. 13.—For one night and two days the village mourned for Asa Witham as one dead. Witham is a veteran of the Civil War, having served under Gen. Butler at New Orleans. Since his return to the ways of peace he has drawn a pension and has lived in a small house close to the shores of Hancock Bay, helping out the income from his pension by catching lobsters and smelts in their season and digging clams from the flats. Most of his revenue comes from the smelts, which he captures with a hook and line from a raft anchored off shore while the bay is open and from a small tent on runners which he hauls out on the ice as soon as freezing weather comes on.

This year he was the first one among the smelt fishermen to shove his tent along the thin ice and moor it to the surface by spilling water around the runners and letting them freeze down. For two cold days he caught smelts. When the smelt fishermen quit work at midnight to go home, Witham was still in his tent and had a blazing fire roaring from the stovepipe in the roof. In the morning on returning, the fishermen found the bay free from ice and most of the fishing tents cast ashore on the eastern side of the bay, a heavy norther having come on and driven the ice and all there was on it out to sea.

Word was sent to all the shore towns by telephone, asking for information about Witham, but as no one had seen him or his tent since the previous day, he was given up as dead. All day and all night the search was kept up. The

wind blew from the south, bringing in a mass of clouds that indicated a brewing storm. The local justice of the peace took two witnesses along and was about to break into the Witham home, when a tent on a large block of ice was sighted in the offing. It was coming in rapidly before the wind, and in a few minutes Witham could be made out standing in the doorway and bowing to the men who had come to administer on his estate.

"It was all due to the ice," said Witham, in explaining his absence. I had poured so much water about the runners of my sled, so that no one could come in and jump my fishing claim, that the ice had formed more than a foot thick about the camp. When the norther came up I did not realize the danger until the cake of ice holding my tent was half a mile down the bay. The water was too cold for me to try swimming to land, so I stayed where I was. Soon after daylight I was outside the bay and was drifting along the shore under the tall cliffs, which were so slippery that I could not climb them. By ripping up a board from the flooring of the tent, I made an ear and ran the sheet of ice into a cove. Here I stayed until the wind shifted, eating smelts and taking occasional pulls from a jug. As soon as the wind came around the right way, I cast myself adrift again, and here I am."

### A NEW PYTHIAN LODGE.

Organized at Richford With 21 Members  
— The Officers.

Richford, Dec. 14.—A Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias lodge, was organized in this place last evening, by Maj. G. W. Lepper of the First Battalion, First Regiment, Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias. The company has a membership of twenty-one and it will be mustered in some time in January.

The officers are as follows: Captain, A. H. King; first lieutenant, G. C. Manne; second lieutenant, William Lepper; recorder, C. M. Boright; treasurer, A. N. Clapp.

### GRANITE OUTPUT CURTAILED.

West Dummerston Quarry Partially Closed Because of Cold Weather.

Brattleboro, Dec. 15.—About fifty men have been discharged from the West Dummerston granite quarry this week, on account of a temporary suspension of certain work as the result of the cold weather. The report that the quarry is closed, however, is erroneous. A force of twenty or more men is still at work, and it is expected that this number will be increased materially in a short time.

### Dressed Turkeys Seized.

East Berkshire, Dec. 14.—Two thousand five hundred pounds of dressed turkeys in boxes for shipment were seized at this place yesterday afternoon with the two teams that brought the turkeys.

## LIGHTNING'S FATAL STROKE

Man Was Killed While Wife  
Was Unharmed

### STROKE ENDED A KISS

Many Curious Freaks of Electricity Recorded by Chicago Weather  
Man in Last Fourteen Years.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 14.—An official attached to the weather bureau has kept for fourteen years all of the authentic accounts of the pranks of lightning throughout the world.

One of the facts to be deduced from the mass of stories about the electricity of the heavens is that lightning cannot be dogged or avoided. There are many accounts of lightning striking timid women who had taken refuge under beds and in closets. In most cases it is shown that the persons who have remained in the rooms seeking safety have escaped unharmed.

Kansas seems to have the palm for the fierceness of its electrical storms, and the state of Missouri and Mississippi valleys follow close behind. An army officer riding from Leavenworth to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in August, 1899, was shocked three times by bolts striking near him. He saw nine huge trees riven by separate bolts. His horse died later from the electrical shocks, while the officer himself suffered no injury of any importance.

There are stories of three women, one in Kansas, one in Arkansas, and the other in Missouri, having been struck dead by lightning while carrying infants in their arms, the young ones escaping unharmed in each case.

A young man in Central Illinois was fooling with a mastiff dog during an electrical storm. The dog was struck dead by a bolt, and the hair being burned from its body, while the young man was only mildly shocked.

A farmer was kissing his wife good-bye before starting for the county fair, when he was struck dead by a bolt of lightning. His wife's hair was consumed, but she was otherwise unharmed.

Three drunken farm hands returning from a dance, all arm in arm, in eastern Nebraska, were overtaken by an electrical storm on the road. The man in the middle was killed by a bolt. His two companions were knocked senseless, but recovered. They were completely sober when they came to.

A letter carrier in Kansas City was handing a woman servant a letter at the basement door, when a bolt of lightning struck between them. They were both rendered unconscious by the shock, but both recovered. The letter was consumed.

Two farm hands ploughing in a 160-acre field in South Dakota, were killed by lightning within three minutes. Three young kittens playing in a back

### A SKIN OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER.

DR. T. FELIX GOURAUD'S ORIENTAL CREAM, OR MAGICAL BEAUTIFIER

Removes Tan, Pimples, Freckles, Moth Patches, Rash, and Skin Diseases, and every blemish on beauty, and restores the skin to its natural state. It has stood the test of 16 years, and is the most perfect skin preparation made. As you ladies will use them, recommend them to your friends. "Gouraud's Cream" is the least harmful of all the skin preparations. Sold by all Druggists and Fancy Goods Dealers in the U. S., Canada, and Europe. FERO, T. HOPKINS, Prop'r, 37 Great Jones St., N. Y.

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yard in Independence, Mo., were struck by lightning. One was killed, and the other two only slightly singed.

The shop of a bird fancier in this city was struck by a bolt. Of two parrots in one cage one was killed and the other permanently blinded, besides being rendered deaf and dumb.

A gang of circus hands was trying to round up an escaped tiger in a Missouri town, when the tiger was struck dead by lightning.

During a running race at an Illinois county fair, in which eleven horses were competing for the purse, the winning horse was struck dead after having won the race by a head at the wire. None of the other horses, most of which were close up at the finish, was hurt.

An Indian fiddler was playing at a country dance, having a seat on the porch. His violin was knocked into kindling wood by a bolt of lightning, while he was only mildly shocked.

A chicken hawk was struck dead while swooping upon a flock of hens on an Iowa farm. None of the hens was hurt.

A locomotive engineer was struck dead in his cab while making a short freight run in Colorado. His fireman was not even shocked.

A dozen girls in an Ohio seminary were shocked by a bolt of lightning while seated in the parlor. The same bolt killed one of the teachers at the other end of the building.

A Tennessee farmer was feeding his hogs, standing in the middle of the pen, when he was hit by a bolt of lightning and killed. The hogs were not injured.

### Y. M. C. A. CONFERENCE.

Vermont Secretaries are Meeting in Burlington Today for Discussion.

Burlington, Dec. 15.—An important conference is being held today at the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association in this city between the employed secretaries and physical directors of Vermont, the idea being to discuss plans for more effective work throughout the state. The secretaries present include E. W. Rose of Proctor, Harry R. Bales of Montpelier, J. H. Lehman of Burlington, E. J. Schenkel and E. B. Tibbitts of Rutland, W. C. Mason, Franklin county secretary W. S. Dill of St. Johnsbury and A. B. McAllister of Island Pond, with the state secretary, F. S. Morrison of this city. This meeting will be followed tomorrow with a gathering of the association workers which will include four international secretaries, Messrs. L. C. Warner, president of the committee, Richard Morse, general secretary, C. K. Ober, field secretary, and J. F. Morse, in charge of the railroad department of the international work. A banquet will be served these men Friday evening when a large number of business and professional men of Burlington will be present.

The matter of raising the \$50,000 debt on the local association building will be discussed and plans made for the work the coming year. C. H. Wilson, the new general secretary, is doing splendid work.

### Revival of Roller Skating.

Forty or fifty roller-skating rinks have been built and opened to the public in New England, New Jersey and other states within the last year. All were well patronized and their promoters believe that this sport, neglected for twenty years, will again become popular. In the late '70's and early '80's roller skating almost attained the dignity of a national amusement. No person was too old or too young to use the rinks. The hockey games, endurance races and exhibitions of fancy skating arranged by rink owners attracted big audiences for four or five years before the popular appetite was satisfied. Then, and almost in a moment, roller skating fell into disfavor. Only children clung to it, and on them it has never lost its hold. This sudden loss of popularity was due simply to the fact that the pastime was worked to death.—New York Sun.

### A New Deputy Collector of Customs.

Newport, Dec. 15.—George Wilder of Derby has been appointed a deputy collector and inspector of customs and will be stationed at Island Pond, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of John C. Walker.

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Largest Distributors  
Pianos of the Better Type.

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### STEINWAY PIANOS

HUME PIANOS JEWETT PIANOS WOODBURY PIANOS  
PIANOLA PIANOS AND ALLIED INSTRUMENTS

Prices and terms reasonable. Bargains in slightly used Pianos. Call and examine.

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Alice Picante Grande, per box.....	20c	Tortellini Bologna, per box.....	40c
Alice Picanti Bollite, per box.....	25c	Castagne Freschi, 7 pounds for.....	50c
Anticughe Salse Piccole, per box.....	22c		
Anticughe Salse Mezzane, per box.....	50c		

Amaretti e Biscottini diverse qualita.

Prima di fare le vostre spese non mancate di visitare il nostro store e ne resterete soddisfatti.

B. D. Tomasi General Store,

Corner of North Main and Seminary Streets. Barre, Vermont.

## Auction Sales of Useful Goods!

At City Auction Rooms

Commencing Thursday Afternoon, Dec. 15th, at 2 O'clock, and Continuing Each Afternoon Until the Goods Are Sold.

One thousand pieces of Ladies', Gents' and Children's Underwear in all-wool and fleece-lined; six Ladies' Furs; fifty pairs Ladies', Gents' and Children's Mittens; Boys' and Girls' Golf Mittens; 100 pairs Ladies', Gents' and Children's Hose in all-wool and fleece-lined; ten Bed Spreads; fifty pairs Ladies' Corsets; 150 patterns Taffeta and Silk Ribbons, all up-to-date goods. Also a large line of Dolls and Children's Holiday Goods; a lot of Rogers Baothers' A1 Plate Goods; Jack-knives, Crockery Ware, Perfumes, Towels, etc. These goods will be sold without reserve to the highest bidder. They are all new and were bought within the last year, so are up to date in every particular.

E. E. WILLEY, Owner.

O. H. HALE, Auctioneer.

## Special Low Prices for This Week

Marshall's Kipperd Herrings, per can.....	19c
Smoked Herrings in boxes, per box.....	20c
Kellin's Dundee Marmalade, per jar.....	25c
Three pound package Lotus Prunes, per package.....	25c
Nabob Pancake Flour, per package.....	10c
Forc, 15c package, two packages for.....	25c
Two cans of Corn or Peas for.....	25c

CHESSER & BIRD,

Telephone 232-12

323 North Main Street. Meats and Groceries.

## SPECIAL REDUCTION SALE

Of Silverware and Bric-a-brac. In order to make room for my new Holiday Goods, I have selected a variety of articles from my stock which I will sell at greatly reduced prices.

Watch and Jewelry Repairing. Mileage Books to Rent on all Roads.

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CURES

Hoarseness, Coughs,  
Colds and Sore Throat.  
The standard remedy  
used for generations.

25 Cents, 50 Cents, \$1.00

per bottle; the largest size cheapest.

At all druggists. Refuse substitutes.

PIKE'S TOOTHACHE DROPS CURE IN ONE MINUTE

## The Times' Daily Short Story.

### A FOXY FATHER

[Original.]  
"Louis," said the elder Olmsted, Winifred loves you."  
"Me, father?"  
"Yes, you. You have been very stupid not to notice it."

Winifred Howe had been adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Olmsted and treated as a daughter. Louis pondered for awhile at his father's information, then asked: "What do you want me to do, father?"

"What your inclination prompts."  
After more pondering Louis said: "Winifred is very lovely. Perhaps we shall make a match in time."

Fish easily caught are not considered desirable, and Louis treated his foster sister indifferently, while she, poor girl, waited patiently for a loving word. Louis was spending his vacation at home before his last year in the law department of his alma mater and in the autumn returned to his studies. On his departure the family parted with him at the door, Winifred among them. When it came her turn to clasp his hand she did so without pressure and with averted eyes. Mr. Olmsted, Sr., accompanied his son to the carriage, but made no mention of what Louis knew was a thwarted desire.

Some time after Louis' return to the law school he received a letter from his father containing the following paragraph:

You may remember that I desired a match between you and Winifred. This was because I wished at my death that you should inherit the homestead and my other property without dividing it. Winifred, however, has assured me that she will in no case accept any legacy from me, and I think she will marry a young man who has recently made her acquaintance—poor, but very promising. Therefore you need not trouble yourself any further about her and consider my implied request withdrawn.

A few days after the receipt of this letter Louis Olmsted appeared one morning at home. His father manifested surprise at seeing him and asked him what brought him back in ten days.

"This matter of Winifred. You see, father, it places me in rather an unpleasant position. I appear as one who doesn't fall in with your desires, as accepting all of a fortune of which Winifred should have half and of turning away a girl who you assured me loved me."

"You are borrowing trouble, my boy, though your feelings do you credit. You have nothing to worry about. We can't force Winifred to accept what she will not accept, and since you don't want her I know you are not a 'dog in the manger' to keep any one else from getting her."

"Who is the fellow?"

"What fellow?"

"She's going to marry."

"Oh, I have no authority from her to speak of that. It's only a matter of

observation with me."

"You may be mistaken."

"Certainly."

"Perhaps you were mistaken when you told me that Winifred was in love with me."

"Quite likely."

"You must certainly be wrong in one case or the other."

"That's a logical deduction. I see that you're profiting by your studies. You'll make an excellent lawyer."

Louis was walking back and forth, evidently much dissatisfied with the situation.

"Where is Winifred?"

"She's away at present."

"Away?"

"Certainly. I said so."

"Where?"

"On a visit to her Aunt Caroline."

Louis knew that this was a day's journey. He muttered something between his teeth.

"Come, Louis," said his father, "you have done very wrong to leave your studies. You must go back at once."

A time table was produced, and it was found that a night train would leave in half an hour. The young man would just have time to reach it. He bade his father a sullen goodby and started for the train. Mr. Olmsted stood looking down the street after him.

"Good!" he muttered, going into the house. "He can't go back to college that way."